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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

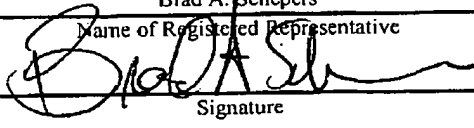
In re patent application of:)	Before the Examiner
Liu et al.)	Thomas C. Barrett
)	
Application Serial No. 10/617,309)	Group Art Unit 3738
)	
Filed July 10, 2003)	Ref. No. MSDI-201/ PC273.19
)	
SPINAL IMPLANT METHOD AND)	August 22, 2005
CUTTING TOOL PREPARATION)	
ACCESSORY FOR MOUNTING THE)	
IMPLANT)	

*Via Facsimile Transmission: 703-273-8300***AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO ADVISORY ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please enter and consider the following amendments and remarks in response to the Advisory Action mailed on August 18, 2005. A fee in the amount of \$450.00 is remitted herewith for a two (2) month extension of time, thereby extending the time period to respond to the final Office Action to August 22, 2005. Additionally, please provide any necessary extensions of time and charge any additional fees which may be due to Deposit Account No. 12-2424, but not to include payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at 703-273-8300 on:	
August 22, 2005	_____
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Brad A. Schepers	_____
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INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 27-29 were pending in the subject application prior to issuance of the Advisory Action on August 18, 2005. In the Advisory Action, claims 27 and 29 were rejected, and claim 28 was objected to as being dependent on a rejected claim. The Applicant has cancelled independent claim 27 without prejudice for possible submission in a continuing application, has rewritten claim 28 in independent form, and has amended dependent claim 29 to depend from rewritten independent claim 28. In view of the following amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests entry of this amendment and further consideration and allowance of pending claim 28 and 29.